Columbia City Council Meeting Recap

Council Chamber, Columbia City Hall
7:00 PM
Monday, August 1, 2016

INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

Pledge of Allegiance (X)
Roll Call (Thomas absent)
Approval of Previous Minutes (X)
Approval and Adjustment of Agenda Including Consent Agenda
(Action: Minutes approved for July 18.)
(Consent agenda adjusted as follows: Nauser abstained from items R105-16 and R106-16. Ruffin abstained from B181-16. Agenda approved with abstentions. No items removed from Consent Agenda.)

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APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

(None.)

SCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT

SPC37-16 Laura Mitchell - Race Matters, Friends - What is easy for white people not to know.
(Action: Presented as indicated. Presenter indicated that she was moved to do more than she had in the past in terms of race relations. Asked for people to listen to the message even if the method of delivery is rough. Asked for white citizens to recognize that life is different if you are a black citizen and that treatment by police is different. Asked for better officer training and the adoption of community policing.)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

PH26-16 Construction of the Black Field improvement project at Thomas E. Atkins Jr. Memorial Park.
Recommended Action: [See B180-16/Mayor Memo]
(Action: Columbia College will pay $150,000 for the right to use field for games and practice and provide signage. City allowed to provide concessions. College will improve fields, facilities and provide modifications. No public comment. See next item. Both approved unanimously.)

B180-16 Authorizing construction of the Black Field improvement project at Thomas

E. Atkins Jr. Memorial Park; calling for bids through the Purchasing Division; authorizing a facility usage agreement with Columbia College; appropriating funds.
Recommended Action: [2nd Read & Vote/Mayor Memo]
(Action: Considered in tandem with prior bill. Approved unanimously.)

OLD BUSINESS

B138-16 Vacating a sanitary sewer easement located on the south side of the southern loop of Cliff Drive and north of Hinkson Creek (Case No. 16-109).
(Tabled at the July 18, 2016 Council Meeting.)
Recommended Action: [Read & Vote/Mayor Memo]
(Action: Peters requests possibility of delaying item for two weeks, but Mayor opened public hearing. Concern from neighbors was identified as it being a very steep area.

Owner of property appeared and asked to get vacation of easement approved. Did not agree to further delay. Also indicated that most other properties are also built on very steep areas. Nauser pointed out that the property is already zoned R-1 and that any building on this property would conform to those rules. Staff indicated that easement is already known to be practically vacated and asked for motion to move forward. Parcel is considered to be a recognized lot due to old cutoff date, but city surveyor indicated that it is a legal lot. Overlay in East Campus would apply. Setbacks would apply. Peters asks to delay action for one month rather than two weeks. Motion to table was denied by 3-3 tie vote.

Trapp indicated that City only has right to hold easement based on use and that use has expired. No further discussion.

Minor amendment posed. Motion for amendment passed.

Bill agreed to 5-1 with Peters voting against.)

B187-16 Amending Chapter 2 of the City Code to establish a transparency policy as it relates to the public availability of data.
Recommended Action: [2nd Read & Vote/Mayor Memo]
(Action: No report. Mayor opened public discussion.

Speaker indicated that one person has indicated that problems exist with video requests and that currently some requests can take up to 6 weeks with some expense.

Speaker asked for unanimous approval, but asked for more rules to insure ease of access to council, staff and public.

Speaker asked for city to refund any money that may have been charged for the previously referenced video.

Speaker indicated that staff had worked with one woman who had asked for video and that it was getting worked out.

Speaker indicated that it would be less of a hassle if we could get this passed.

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Speaker indicated that transparency law is perfectly acceptable but that current city manager is doing his job, and most of the time when the speaker calls – city staff is busy, including city police. Indicated that city police need weaponry and more police.

Speaker indicated that this issue was not heated and that people came together. Indicated that City Manager should take heed.

Public comment ended. Peters wants to know if telephone calls are treated the same way as written request. Mayor indicated that we should make better use of new technology and publish information when possible rather than respond to individual requests.

City Manager indicated that sometimes there are some things that cannot be released, but that a Q & A approach does exist, that there is a responsive system, and that sometimes narrowing the scope of the search gives people better information. Indicated that he is generally proud of responsiveness. Also indicated that some new software products and a proposal from the public information officer will be vetted and proposed in the future.

Skala indicated that speed and responsiveness was important and asked that citizens don't just blame the system and that they realize that sometimes there are limitations.

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City Manager indicated that the current system is good at decentralized system, but needs one part that is more centralized for organizing Sunshine requests.

Nauser indicated that sometimes if you don't ask the right question you may not get the right answer. Mayor agreed and indicated that he himself had had requests rejected at the state level for not citing the exact ordinance or law.

Trapp believes that this moves toward improving the process. Also believes that training will help and will vote in favor.

Motion to approve. Approved unanimously.)

CONSENT AGENDA

(All items remaining on Consent Agenda agreed to.)

B174-16 Voluntary annexation of property located on the east side of Highway 763, approximately 500-feet north of International Drive (5210 N. Highway 763); establishing permanent M-1 (General Industrial District) zoning; authorizing execution of a deed of dedication to transfer additional property required for street right-of-way (Case No. 16-124).

B175-16 Rezoning property located on the south side of Ash Street and west of Garth Avenue from C-2 (Central Business District) to C-P (Planned Business District); changing the uses on C-P zoned property; approving the Millard Family Funeral Chapels 10-12 E. Ash Street C-P Plan (Case No. 16-127).

B176-16 Approving the Final Plat of Broadway and Hitt Street Plat 1 located on the southeast corner of Broadway and Hitt Street (1102 Broadway and 8 Hitt Street); granting variances to the Subdivision Regulations relating to street

widths and corner truncations (Case No. 16-131).
B177-16 Authorizing a historic preservation fund grant agreement with the State of Missouri, Department of Natural Resources, Division of State Parks, State Historic Preservation Office to fund the architectural survey of the North Central Columbia Neighborhood - Phase I; appropriating funds.
B178-16 Amending Chapter 6 of the City Code as it relates to reciprocation of electrical licenses; amending Ordinance No. 022825 relating to the adoption of the NFPA 70 2014 National Electrical Code.
B179-16 Amending Chapter 14 of the City Code as it relates to the definition of a parking meter.
B181-16 Appropriating funds received from donations and miscellaneous revenue to the Parks and Recreation Department.
B182-16 Authorizing agreements with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as it relates to storm water discharge violations at the City of Columbia sanitary landfill.
B183-16 Accepting a conveyance for electric utility purposes.
B184-16 Accepting conveyances for sewer, utility, agreement for temporary construction and agreement for temporary access purposes.
B185-16 Authorizing a first amendment to PCS antenna co-location agreement and a memorandum of first amendment to PCS antenna co-location agreement with Cellco Partnership, d/b/a Verizon Wireless, relating to the lease of property on Chapel Hill Road (Fire Station No. 6).
B186-16 Dissolving the authority to establish a revolving loan fund within REDI; authorizing an intergovernmental cooperative agreement grant with The Curators of the University of Missouri for economic development initiatives supporting early stage companies and new business start-ups.
B188-16 Authorizing Amendment No. 2 to the program services contract with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for public health emergency preparedness services.
B189-16 Appropriating funds received from Special Obligation Improvement Bonds (Downtown Government Center - Annual Appropriation Obligation), Series 2008B of the City of Columbia, Missouri; transferring funds.
R101-16 Setting a public hearing: setting property tax rates for 2016 for the City of Columbia.
R102-16 Setting a public hearing: FY 2017 Annual Budget for the City of Columbia.
R103-16 Setting a public hearing: proposed construction of the Forum Boulevard and Green Meadows Road intersection improvement project.
R104-16 Authorizing various Adopt a Spot agreements.
R105-16 Granting a temporary waiver from the requirements of Section 16-185 of the City Code to allow possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages for the annual Mid-Missouri PrideFest celebration.
R106-16 Granting a temporary waiver from the requirements of Section 16-185 of the City Code to allow possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages for the Shakespeare's Pizza (225 S. Ninth Street) grand re-opening event.

NEW BUSINESS

R107-16 Amending Resolution No. R114-15A which established the Mayor's Task Force on Infrastructure to extend the deadline for submitting a final report.

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(Action: This Commission officially expires on August 3, 2016. R114-15A established the Mayor's Task Force on Infrastructure. With the establishment of this task force, a final report to the City Council of its findings and recommendations twelve (12) months following appointment, was required. This resolution is requesting the deadline for the final report be extended, so that the Task Force would submit the report to staff by October 28th, allowing for a presentation to the City Council at their regularly scheduled meeting on November 7, 2016.

Mayor asked for an extension of work time on this commission and asked that it be delivered on the same basic time frame as the other groups weighing in on the new zoning code including P&Z, Parking Commission, Historic Preservation, etc. Mayor thought such report would be delivered to council on October 28. Clerk indicated that the resolution calls for delivery to staff by that date with a possible delivery date to Council of Nov 7. Such delivery date does not contemplate how this information will be referred to the Planning & Zoning Commission for consideration during the initial recommendations for the new zoning code. Please refer to actual wording of bill for clarification.
(LINK TO ORDINANCE)

One speaker endorsed the idea.

Motion passed unanimously.)

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INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING
(All bills introduced as indicated.)

B190-16* Amending Chapter 2 of the City Code relating to conflicts of interest and financial disclosure procedures.
B191-16 Setting property tax rates for 2016.
B192-16 Adopting the FY 2017 Annual Budget for the City of Columbia.
B193-16 Amending Chapter 12A of the City Code as it relates to stormwater utility charges.
B194-16 Amending Chapter 13 of the City Code as it relates to hauled liquid waste rates.
B195-16 Amending Chapter 17 of the City Code as it relates to Parks and Recreation fees.
B196-16 Amending Chapter 22 of the City Code as it relates to sanitary sewer utility rates and sanitary sewer utility connection fees.
B197-16 Amending Chapter 22 of the City Code as it relates to solid waste rates and services.
B198-16 Amending Chapter 27 of the City Code as it relates to water rates.
B199-16 Amending Chapter 27 of the City Code as it relates to electric rates.
B200-16** Rezoning property located on the west side of Old 63 and north of McAlester Street from Districts R-3 and C-3 to District O-P; changing the uses on O-P zoned property located on the northeast corner of Old 63 and Alfred Street; approving the Landmark Hospital O-P Plan (Case No. 16-142).
B201-16* Approving the Final Plat of Schaumburg Subdivision Plat 1, a Replat of Lot 4 and part of Lots 3, 5, 8 and 9 of Wellington Gordon's Subdivision, located on the west side of Old 63 and north of McAlester Street (805 Old 63); authorizing a performance contract (Case No. 16-144).
B202-16** Approving a major amendment to the C-P Plan for Discovery Office Park North located on the northwest corner of Ponderosa Street and Philips Farm

Road (Case No. 16-134).
B203-16* Granting a variance from the requirements of Section 25-48.1 of the City Code relating to construction of a sidewalk along a portion of the south side of Jamesdale Road, approximately 500 feet east of Brown Station Road (3406 Jamesdale Road) (Case No. 16-149).
B204-16* Authorizing a license agreement with the City of Ashland, Missouri relating to the lease of property at the Columbia Regional Airport for a pump station and force main.
B205-16* Authorizing an airport aid agreement for air service promotion with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission; appropriating funds.
B206-16* Authorizing a participation agreement with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for tuberculosis diagnostic screening services.
B207-16* Amending the FY 2016 Annual Budget by adding positions in the City Manager's Office and Community Relations Department; amending the FY 2016 Annual Budget by deleting a position in the Community Relations Department; amending the FY 2016 Classification and Pay Plan by adding classifications, closing a classification and making a classification reassignment.
B208-16* Appropriating funds for Share the Light Program.
B209-16* Appropriating funds for the purchase of framed City of Columbia commemorative posters for a public art display.

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REPORTS

REP62-16 Bylaws amendment discussion and request to reestablish advertising for board members.
Recommended Action: [Memo]
(No action. Indicated need for re-advertisement to some positions.)

REP63-16 Disabilities Commission - Columbia Regional Airport Accessibility Services.
Recommended Action: [Memo]
(Report accepted.)

REP64-12 Intra-Departmental Transfer of Funds Report.
Recommended Action: [Memo]
(Report accepted.)

GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, COUNCIL AND STAFF

Public Comment
Speaker indicated that he anticipates that city staff is understaffed and that there will be some feedback about we can't do this or that. He believed that city should fund these things rather than simply pass the transparency rule. Also suggested that it would be good to have the Daniel Boone Regional Library be a repository for good information. Mayor agreed. Wants to work out some sort of deal. Indicated that library staff love to help people information.

Speaker indicated that he knew when he was a kid that he knew about prejudice. Believes University needs to step up and become involved in the solution to racial tensions. Believed better people need to be appointed to Housing Authority Board and thought some existing members need to go. Indicated

that people from all walks of life have indicated they never believe that their own kid could do the things they do. It is not isolated to one section of the community. Need to make the town safe.

Speaker indicated that he had been involved in homeless issues for years, but that the Homeless Connect program was unknown to him until the past few days. Felt that if he didn't know that the target population may not be informed of available services as well. Indicated that Turning Point program may have some problems. Indicated that some officers hassle panhandlers at major Columbia intersections. Indicated that such a practice was unwarranted.

Council Comment

Trapp – Asked about policy regarding trash out all day on wrong day of pick-up, particularly in areas where people are moving out and load junk in front yard. Asked about special pick-ups for moving days or some other way to address situation. Also indicated that city police need to be aware of their ability to address intrusive drone use. Indicated that some people are using drones to fly over and photograph young women sun bathing and other inappropriate use. Disagreed with comment that police are hassling panhandlers at intersections. Indicated that some are habitual offenders and that they may not be homeless – but may be feeding an addictive problem.

Skala – Indicated that in 2012 a program to involve Job Point workers to repair sidewalks was widely heralded. Wants to know what happened to that program and if it should receive funding. Also encouraged people to vote, generally referring to use and airport tax.

Peters – Thanked city staff for painting yellow stripes in East Campus neighborhood indicating No Parking areas.

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ADJOURNMENT

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